SPECIFICATION AMENDMENTS

Please amend the paragraph beginning at page 34, line 3 as follows:

-- On the downstream side of the hole-punching device 10 in the conveyance direction, there are arranged paired registration rollers 60, and the leading edge of sheet S which has been ejected from the image forming apparatus main body A and has passed the hole-punching device 10 hits the nip formed between the paired registration rollers 60 which are in their stopped state so that a buckle of the sheet S may be formed between the upper guide plate 61a and the lower guide plate 61b both arranged at an entrance section of the paired registration rollers 60 by conveying force of sheet ejection roller 7C of the image forming apparatus main body A, and sheet skewing may be corrected. Incidentally, the ~~numeral 12 represents a detection sensor~~ numeral 17 represents a sheet side edge detection means which is integrally provided on the hole-punching device 10 and detects the leading edge and the trailing edge of the sheet S. --

Please amend the paragraph beginning at page 39, line 14 paragraph to follows:

-- When the leading edge of the sheet S1 is detected by ~~detection sensor 12~~ sheet side edge detection means 17 that is provided on the hole-punching device 10, the conveyance motor 80 stops driving immediately, and thereby, paired conveyance rollers 31 and 32, paired sheet ejection rollers 70 and paired registration rollers 60 are all stopped. --

Please amend the paragraph beginning at page 40, line 9 as follows:

-- Then, when the trailing edge of the sheet S1 is detected by ~~detection sensor 12~~ sheet side edge detection means 17 provided on the hole-punching device 10, the drive of the conveyance motor 80 is stopped again after passage of a prescribed period of time, then, the sheet S1 is stopped temporarily, and the hole-punching device 10 conducts advancing and retreating movements for punch pins 11 at an appropriate position at the center of the sheet S1 and conducts hole-punching processing to punch a punched-hole on the sheet S1. --

Please amend the paragraph beginning at page 41, line 10 as follows:

-- The action of this kind is conducted in the same way as in the foregoing, even when sheet S1 stops temporarily in the course of skew correcting operations. Namely, when the leading edge of sheet S1 conveyed in the hole-punching processor C is detected by ~~detection sensor 12~~ sheet side edge detection means 17 as shown in FIG. 7, the conveyance motor 80 stops driving immediately, and thereby, paired conveyance rollers 31 and 32, paired sheet ejection rolls 70 and paired registration rollers 60 are all stopped accordingly, and the leading edge of the sheet S1 hits the paired registration rollers 60, thus, conveyance force of sheet ejection roller 7C of the image forming apparatus main body A is used for skew correcting operations. In this case, sheet S1f preceding in the first conveyance path 20 is also stopped simultaneously by the stop of the paired sheet ejection rollers 70. In this case, even when the leading edge of the sheet S1f is nipped by paired entrance rollers D1 of finishing apparatus D connected to the subsequent step, and tension force is applied accordingly, sheet ejection roller 70 can run idle in

the conveyance direction for the sheet S1f because a one-way clutch is used on the driving-force transmission section of the sheet ejection roller 70a, and the sheet S1f can be ejected quickly from hole-punching processor C by the rotation of paired entrance rollers D1 of the finishing apparatus D without pulling each other with paired sheet ejection rollers 70 of the hole-punching processor C. --

Please amend the paragraph beginning at page 42, line 18 as follows:

-- When the leading edge of the sheet S2 is detected by ~~detection sensor 12~~ sheet side edge detection means 17 that is provided on the hole-punching device 10, the conveyance motor 80 stops driving immediately, and thereby, paired conveyance rollers 31 and 32, paired sheet ejection rollers 70 and paired registration rollers 60 are all stopped. --

Please amend the paragraph beginning at page 43, line 13 as follows:

-- Then, when the trailing edge of the sheet S2 is detected by ~~detection sensor 12~~ sheet side edge detection means 17 provided on the hole-punching

device 10, the drive of the conveyance motor 80 is stopped again after passage of a prescribed period of time, then, the sheet S2 is stopped temporarily, and the hole-punching device 10 conducts advancing and retreating movements for punch pins 11 at an appropriate position at the center of the sheet S2 and conducts hole-punching processing to punch a punched-hole on the sheet S2. --

Please amend the paragraph beginning at page 44, line 17 as follows:

-- The action of this kind is conducted in the same way as in the foregoing, even when sheet S2 stops temporarily in the course of skew correcting operations. Namely, when the leading edge of sheet S2 conveyed in the hole-punching processor C is detected by ~~detection sensor 12~~ sheet side edge detection means 17 as shown in FIG. 9, the conveyance motor 80 stops driving immediately, and thereby, paired conveyance rollers 31 and 32, paired sheet ejection rolls 70 and paired registration rollers 60 are all stopped accordingly, and the leading edge of the sheet S2 hits the paired registration rollers 60, thus, conveyance force of sheet ejection roller 7C of the image forming

apparatus main body A is used for skew correcting operations. In this case, sheet S2f preceding in the second conveyance path 30 is also stopped simultaneously by the stop of the paired sheet ejection rollers 70. In this case, even when the leading edge of the sheet S2f is nipped by paired entrance rollers D1 of finishing apparatus D connected to the subsequent step, and tension force is applied accordingly, paired conveyance rollers 31 and 32 and paired sheet ejection rollers 70 can run idle in the conveyance direction for the sheet S2f because a one-way clutch is used on the driving-force transmission section of the conveyance rollers 31a and 32a and the sheet ejection roller 70a, and the sheet S2f can be ejected quickly from hole-punching processor C by the rotation of paired entrance rollers D1 of the finishing apparatus D without pulling each other with paired sheet ejection rollers 70 of the hole-punching processor C and paired conveyance rollers 31 and 32. -

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